

the slopes of his beloved state. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize John's tremendous enthusiasm and contributions to the sport of skiing before my colleagues here today.

John learned to ski while serving with the Army Air Corps during World War II. After the war, he returned to Colorado where he graduated from the University of Colorado and went on to a career in the insurance business. John's true passion, however, was on the ski slopes. As an instructor, he has spent over thirty years teaching his craft. John's commitment to the sport has earned him several prestigious awards, such as the USA Ski Instructor of the Year and the Ski Country USA Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise and pay tribute to John Tillema and his zest for life and the sport of skiing; a passion that I am sure resonates throughout his many students over the years. I would like to thank him for his contributions before this body of Congress and nation today, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors. Thanks John for your service.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER AND  
RETIREMENT OF DAVID HAYES—  
SECRETARY/TREASURER OF  
BLUFF CITY LODGE 660, INTER-  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MA-  
CHINISTS AND AEROSPACE  
WORKERS

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 11, 2004*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the career and retirement of David W. Hayes, the Financial Secretary-Treasurer of the Bluff City Lodge 660, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers in East Alton, Illinois.

David Hayes has honorably served the area and the union in a number of capacities for nearly 45 years—27 of those as an officer of the union. The local that Dave represents has over 4400 retirees and workers at 14 area businesses—Olin Corporation, Beall Manufacturing, Conoco Phillips, Lenhardt Tool and Die, Owens-Illinois, Rotary Ram, Dugan Tool and Die, Dooling Machine Products, ASF Keystone, Gebco Machine, M&W Machine and Gear Shop, Cooper B-Line and the Warren G Murray Development Center.

Dave started his career at Olin in 1959 and held in-plant positions with the union that included Steward, Committeeman, Lodge Trustee, Recording Secretary and Chairman of the Mechanical Groups. He was elected as the full-time Financial Secretary-Treasurer of Bluff City Lodge 660 in 1989 and has been re-elected four times since. He has served as the First Vice President of the Greater Madison County Federation of Labor for the past 15 years and has represented the Federation on the Board of Directors of the Greater Alton/Twin Rivers Growth Association. He has been the Labor Representative on the United Way Partnership for many years, serving on both their Executive Board and Personnel Committee. As part of the Federation of Labor, Dave served on their Political Committee for

many years and has served on both the 12th and the 19th Congressional District COPE Committees.

Each year, Dave is also responsible for organizing the Alton, Illinois Labor Day parade. During the two-month Olin strike, Dave was responsible for the payments of over 2.1 million dollars in strike benefits to the 2,538 Machinists on strike at Olin. Dave has been the recipient of the 2001 Labor Leader of the Year Award presented by the Federation of Labor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions of David Hayes and wish him and his family the very best in the future.

IN HONOR OF BLACK HISTORY  
MONTH

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 11, 2004*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the month of February is dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the often overlooked achievements and contributions of African-Americans throughout our country's history.

Although African-Americans settled the American frontier alongside British colonists, it was not until the establishment of "Black History Month" in 1926, that they were afforded the respect and dignity they are rightfully due. If not for the efforts of Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who first noticed a glaring disparity in historical texts and established the "Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History," the stories of prominent and influential African American men and women would still be hidden in the shadows today.

The choice of February as the month of celebration honors the birthday of two important figures in the history of African-Americans. The first is Frederick Douglass, a leader of the abolitionist movement during the Civil War, as well as a prolific author, newspaper editor, and dedicated civil servant. The second is none other than our sixteenth president of the United States, the author of the Emancipation Proclamation, Abraham Lincoln. The month of February also marks the anniversary of important events such as the birth of civil rights leader W.E.B. Dubois, the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment granting black suffrage, the first black senator and the establishment of the NAACP.

I proudly represent the 17th district of New York, which is rich in African-American history. From early politicians to entertainers, African-Americans in the Bronx, Westchester, and Rockland counties have contributed to our nation. This month I would like to recognize Denzel Washington's contribution to our culture through his talented work in film. A native of Mount Vernon, this actor, producer and director is one of only two African-Americans to have received an academy award in the best actor category. While living in Mount Vernon, Denzel Washington was an active community member taking advantage of the Boys' Club of America. Today he continues his work as a leading spokesman for the organization, as well as a being an outstanding supporter of the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund and an AIDS-hospice called The Gathering Place. Through his talent and dedication, Denzel

Washington has left his mark as a positive leader in our community and important contributor to our culture.

I am always inspired by the community spirit and leadership I witness from African-Americans in New York and around the country. It is my hope that as we commemorate Black History Month in the future, we will continue to celebrate the many achievements and rich culture of African-Americans.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT GREENE  
BAKER

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 11, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise before you today to pay tribute to a man from my district. Robert Greene Baker, of Grand Junction, Colorado, passed away recently at the age of eighty-eight. Robert will be remembered as a patriot and devoted community member, and it is my honor to recognize his life and accomplishments before this body of Congress here today.

After serving his country as a Marine in World War II, Robert returned to Colorado. He later married his best friend Mary, a loving marriage that lasted sixty-three years. Together, they raised three wonderful children. Robert spent almost four decades with the Public Service Company of Colorado, earning the title of supervisor. Upon retiring, Robert was fortunate to enjoy time spent fishing and traveling to a variety of exotic locations with his family. Robert was also passionate about giving back to his community. He could be found volunteering for a variety of civic organizations, such as the Mesa County United Way, Grand Junction Planning Commission and the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress to pay tribute to the life of Robert Greene Baker. Robert served this nation and he leaves behind a legacy of dedication and commitment to his family and community. My heart goes out to his family and friends during this difficult time of bereavement.

FREEDOM FOR ANGEL JUAN MOYA  
ACOSTA

**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 11, 2004*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Angel Juan Moya Acosta, a prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Moya is a tireless advocate for the freedom of Cuba. He is the founder and president of the Alternative Action Movement, a member of the Independent National Labor Federation and a signatory of the "All United" manifesto that asked for changes in Cuban society and demanded the release of all political prisoners.

Mr. Moya has dedicated much of his work to the cause of freedom for the Cuban people. However, under Castro's totalitarian regime,